Non-working of Outstation Cell Phones

181. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the MTNL employees are not happy with the management;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) is it a fact that STD facilities were disturbed during the third week of June 2000, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reasons for outstation cell phones not working during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) The Group 'C' and 'D' employees of MTNL are agitating for sometime to finalise their pay scales and perks consequent to their absorption.

(c) and (d) Detailed information is being collected.

Appointment of Additional departmental Distribution Agents

†182. SHRI RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the decision of the Central Administrative Tribunal regarding the appointment of Additional Departmental Distribution Agent in Ahdhaithari Post Office at the Madhubani District of Bihar along with the time frame for implementing the same;

(b) whether the said decision have been implemented within the time frame;

(c) if not, the officer responsible for the same and the action being taken against him by the department; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government for the speedy implementation of the decision of the Central Administrative Tribunal in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (d) The CAT Patna Bench decision about reinstatement of Shri Ram Kripal Chaudhary, the applicant in O.A. No. 528/94 Vs. UOI & Others to be implemented within one month from the date of communication of their order dated 4.10.1999, was received when copy of it

was forwarded by the applicant's advocate with his letter dated 11.11.1999. The correct nomenclature of the post is Extra Departmental Delivery Agent (EDDA) and name of the place where the office is located is Andhra.

Shri Ram Kripal Chaudhary was appointed as EDDA, Andhra SO on 10.2.1991. On receipt of several complaints his appointment was reviewed and found to be irregular. Consequently, the appointment of Shri Ram Kripal Chaudhary was cancelled and Shri Suresh Prasad was appointed as EDDA on 18.12.1995 after observing due formalities. Shri Ram Kripal Chaudhary filed the application before the CAT, Patna in 1994 and the CAT order was received by the Department on 11.11.1999. In the meantime Shri Suresh Prasad, EDDA, Andhra SO also filed a Writ Application in the Patna High Court against the CAT judgement of 4.10.1999 in OA No. 528/94. The Department has also filed a review petition against the CAT judgement in O.A. No. 528/94 as per advice of Senior Standing Counsel.

Appointment of New Chairman-Cum-managing Director of MTNL

183. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tenure of the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of MTNL had expired on 30.06.2000;

(b) whether a new CMD for MTNL was in place on 01.07.2000;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) How will the failure of the Government to have a new CMD in place on the appointed date impact the commercial functioning of the organisation in a competitive environment particularly in terms of the prices of the MTNL shares in the Stock Exchanges;

(e) whether such a failure by the Government not acting to the advantage of the private companies which are competitors to MTNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Acting CMD was in place on 30.06.2000(A/N).

(c) to (e) In view of (b) above, question does not arise.